

State of Rhode Island
and Providence Plantations

Department of Health
Division of Professional Regulations

vs.

TERESA HOWELL NA25031

CONSENT AGREEMENT

This matter is before the Department of Health, Division of Professional Regulation (hereinafter Department), upon matters contained in complaint (2-0399) filed with the Department alleging that Teresa Howell (hereinafter the Respondent) misappropriated staff and resident property while employed as a Nursing Assistant by Cortland Place Nursing Home. The Respondent, in a statement to the Board admitted the theft and also admitted to the mitigating cause, substance abuse. Based on the foregoing, the Department proposed placing the Respondent on probation for a two (2) year period subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. The Respondent will voluntarily surrender her license for a period during which she will provide proof of her successful treatment and rehabilitation efforts.
2. Subsequently, the Respondent will be subject to a two (2) year period of probation
3. The Respondent will document remedial training in the areas of residents rights and basic nursing care to total at least six (6) hours.
4. The Respondent will be employed as a Nursing assistant

during the probationary period and will forward copies of at least two (2) performance evaluations by her employer, in her responsibilities as a Nursing Assistant, which review basic nursing care, respect for residents rights and recommend continued employment.

5. Respondent will be employed as a Nursing Assistant under direct supervision of a registered nurse, that is, will not provide home health care. She will not be employed during the third shift.

6. That, as a condition of probation, Respondent will enter into and adhere to a contract with a substance abuse program approved by the Department, and that the program will be directed by the Respondent to submit an initial and final report to the Department.

7. That should Respondent implement and comply with the documentation of remedial training and good to excellent performance evaluations and recommendations as a Nursing Assistant during the two (2) year period of probation, and reports from the substance abuse program are provided, the Department will consider Respondent to have fulfilled the conditions of this probation. Respondent will provide the Department with proof of completion of the required remedial training prior to 25 June 2001 and request reinstatement of registration in good standing.

7. Should Respondent fail to comply with the terms of this Agreement, her Registration as a Nursing Assistant will be subject to automatic suspension. If Respondent is

not employed as a Nursing Assistant during all or part of the one (2) year probationary period, she may apply for an extension in writing.

7. That the terms of this Consent Agreement shall obviate the necessity for the initiation of a formal administrative hearing before the Adjudication Officer of the Rhode Island Department of Health with respect to the matters contained in the complaint (2-0399) filed against the Respondent.

Teresa Howell 6/22/99

Teresa Howell

date

Russell Spaight 6/22/99

Russell Spaight

date

(in plenum)